

Remarks

A. Pending Claims

Claims 1, 6, 12, and 23-27 have been amended. Claim 5 has been canceled. Claims 1-3, 6, 8, 9, 11-13, 15, 21, and 23-27 are pending

B. Specification

The Examiner objected to the specification as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. The Examiner takes the position that the terms “leading front pad”, “trailing front pad”, “leading top pad”, and “trailing top pad” do not have antecedent basis in the specification. Applicant respectfully disagrees with this objection. Nevertheless, to expedite prosecution of the application, Applicant has amended claims 24-27 for clarification and to correct typographical errors. Applicant respectfully requests removal of this objection.

C. Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner objected to claim 5 as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has amended claim 1, from which claim 5 depends, to include the features of cancelled claim 5. Applicant submits that claim 1 is now in condition for allowance.

D. 35 U.S.C. §102(b) Rejections:

The Examiner rejected claims 12 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,050,530 to Studebaker et al.

Applicant has amended claim 12 to include the features of cancelled claim 5. Claim 12 describes a combination of features including:

wherein the plurality of pads comprises one or more top pads adjacent to one or more of the front pads, wherein at least one of the one or more top pads is configured to contact a top face of the baseboard when the substantially planar front surfaces of the two or more front pads are in contact with the front face of the baseboard, wherein at least one of the one or more top pads is configured to wipe the top face of the baseboard at the same time the two or more front pads wipe the front face of the baseboard

Applicant submits that amended claim 12 and the claims depending thereon are allowable over the cited art. Applicant therefore respectfully requests the removal of the rejections against these claims.

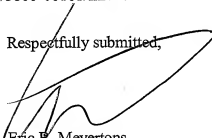
E. Additional Remarks

Based on the above, Applicant submits that all claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

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10/715,134

If any extension of time is required, Applicant hereby requests the appropriate extension of time. If any fees are inadvertently omitted or if any additional fees are required or have been overpaid, please appropriately charge or credit those fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert & Goetzel, P.C. Deposit Account Number 50-1505/5806-00101/EBM.

Respectfully submitted,



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